

The Life of Derald Stange

Derald W. Stange, age 87, of Florence Oregon, formerly of Lebanon Oregon, passed away the morning of Wednesday March 2, 2016 at OHSU Hospital. Derald is survived by Edna, his wife of 59 years, son David Stange (Carol), daughters Linda Brush (Les) and Coral Hutchcraft (Glen), sister, Geraldine Hansen, brothers, Charles Stange, Carl Burke and Robert Burke. Grandchildren, Michelle Stange, Caroline Stange-Foundation, James Buckingham, Greg Buckingham and Cheryl Edwards. Three great grandchildren and many nieces and nephews.

Derald was born April 12, 1929 in Velva North Dakota to William Stange and Emma Bartz, he spent his early life in Stratford South Dakota and Los Angeles California. He joined the Navy at age 17 serving aboard the USS Iowa and USS Columbus. A genetic disease, Leber Hereditary Optical Neuropathy (LHON) took his eyesight at age 21. Derald never let his blindness become a disability and went on to work as a small appliance repairman for Goodwill and Sears, ranch in Eastern Oregon, operate a dairy farm in Minnesota, own a laundromat in California, and retire as a machinist from the Linn Gear Company of Lebanon, Oregon.

Derald enjoyed going to the horse races, fishing, playing cards, traveling and mostly, spending time with his family and friends. He was a joy to know and made everyone he met feel like they were the most important person in the world. He will be missed by all that knew him.